A

REVIEW

OF THE

Affairs of *FRANCE*:

Purg'd from the Errors and Partiality of *News-Writers* and *Petty-Statesmen*, of all Sides.

Saturday, June 3. 1704.

OUR last Papers brought the Line of Towns, Strengthned for the Defence of the *French* Monarchy from *Dunkirk*, on the Sea-shoar, to the edge of *Lorrain*.

And here to have a good Barrier, the *French* has always thought fit to keep the Duke of *Lorrain* under his foot.

The two Famous High-Ways made about the Year 1676, thro' the whole Country of *Lorrain*, are Monuments of the entire Submission of the Duke of *Lorrain*: these traverse his whole Country, for the March of the King's Armies to *Alsace* and the Middle *Rhine*; and as they are always kept in repair, and are broad enough for the Horse to March a full Squadron in Front; it mightily facilitates the March of the *French* Forces that way.

On the East of *Lorrain*, the Kingdom of *France*, which is openest on this side, always preserved the Possession of the *Saar* and the *Moselle*; here *Saar Louis* and *Monsroyal*, were wholly built by his Majesty's Directions, the last Demolished by the late Peace; besides this, he has the Castle of *Traerback*, the Cities of *Metz*, *Thionville*, *Saar-bruck*, *Saar-alb*, and a whole Line of small Places, from the City of *Treves* on the *Moselle*, to *Saltzburgh*, on the edge of *Burgundy*.

I do not reckon *Nancy*, *Verdun*, or the rest of *Lorrain*, which he has now in Possession, and always had at Command; this is a Barrier within a Barrier.

At a distance from this, we find *France* Defended by the Advancements it had formerly made on the Empire, and which were left in its hands at the Peace of *Ryswick*; and this Part, notwithstanding the Great Number of Towns the King of *France* Surrendred by that Peace, contains some very Formidable Places, as *Landau*, *Swatburgh*, *Fort Louis* and *Huningben*; the Surrender of *Brisac* had left them somewhat Naked upon that side; and tho' the Bridge and Star-Fort on this side were Demolish'd by the Articles, yet it was not without great Hesitations and Reluctance, that the *French* Executed this Article of the Treaty; and as they found a great many Scruples to spin out the Time of the Surrender, on Pretence of Demolishing the Bridge, which they did very slowly; 'twas plain they were very uneasie at the Nakedness of the Country on that side, and never evacuated the old Town, till they had laid the Foundation of a New one, at the Foot of the Bridge they had Demolish'd.

I cannot omit to Reflect here on the prodigious Strength of the *French* on this

at the Time of the Peace of *Reſwick*; by the Article whereof they Surrendered more Towns, than the *Germans* could in all Probability have taken from them in 7 Years, tho' they had been all that time Maſters of the Field.

They Surrendered to the *Imperialiſts* all the Towns they poſſeſs'd, either upon, or beyond the *Rhine*, from the Fort of *Huningben* to the City of *Mentz*, *viz. Briſac*, *Fribourgh*, *Fort Kbiel*, Demoliſh'd part of *Fort Louis*, Surrendered *Philipsburgh*, and quitted the whole Palatinate and the 5 Foreſt Towns.

I preſume to Affirm, that one of theſe two things muſt be true, with reſpect to the *French* quitting all that Country.

Either *firſt*, That the *French* valued not the parting with thoſe Strengths, having ſufficient left on this ſide to Defend his Country, and a Barrier large enough to put him out of fear of the Inſults of the *Germans*, and Room enough on the Frontiers for the Seat of War, in Caſe of a new Rupture.

Or *ſecondly*, That the King of *France* found himſelf ſo preſs'd by the laſt War, that he was oblig'd to Reſtore all this, to purchaſe a Peace, and conſequently the Confederates had the Advantage of him.

I am not concern'd to enter into the Diſpute of this Matter, both ſides have Arguments for their Opinions; my buſineſs is rather to Relate the Fact, than give a Paraphraſe.

'Tis certain the Confederates obtained great Conceſſions on the Peace, upon which the Acknowledging the late King *William* in Prejudice of a Prince, who had taken Sanctuary with him, and to whom he Promiſed Protection and Reſtoration, was an Action that adds the leaſt to the King of *France*'s Glory, of any he has thought fit to make Publick for many Years.

'Tis alſo as great a Proof of the Advantage the Confederacy had over him in that War, as any I know in the whole Story, but I am to gueſs at what may be, by what appears; the Secret Reaſons which the King of *France* had for that Action, are not viſible enough for me to Treat of, and for ſpeaking by gueſs 'tis not my Cuſtom, eſpecially in this Book, which I pretend to call a Hiſtory.

We have now begun to draw a Circle round this vaſt Monarchy, and as it appears Fortified by Art, with a continued Line, of almoſt Impregnable Fortifications, from the edge of the Sea, to the foot of the Alps; from *Flanders* to *Switzerland*; ſo we are to conſider it Fortify'd by Nature; from thence to the *Rhoſne*, *Burgundy* and *Franche Comté*, lay on this ſide, and gave the *Spaniards* frequent Opportunities to Inſult the *French*, but the preſent King took care of that for the future, by making a Conqueſt of them both, in but a piece of a Campaign, and annexing them to the Crown, they are call'd part of *France*; and ſo the Dominions of this Great Monarch are bounded only by the Mountains of the *Swiſs* from the *Rhine* to the *Rhoſne*; and *Geneva* has the Mortification to ſee her ſelf expos'd to the dangerous Neighbourhood of the moſt Mortal Enemy of her Religious Eſtabliſhment.

Here the *French* Dominions make an Indenture Eaſtward, to the edge of *Piemont*, and here once they Poſſeſs'd one of the ſtrongeſt Fortreſſes in the World, I mean *Pignerol*, which they very much find the want of now, and which they had never yielded to Demoliſh, if they had not thought the Marrying the Daughter of *Savoy*, to the Fortune of *France*, had not been Obligation enough to have ſecur'd the Duke of *Savoy* to their Intereſt.

But if upon this Proſecution they Impos'd too much upon him, made him Jealous of farther Encroachments, and oblig'd him thereby to turn upon all his former Meaſures, the fault muſt lie at their own door.

I confeſs this ſeems to me the weakeſt part of *France*, and is ſecur'd only by the Weakneſs of her Enemies; for if the Duke of *Savoy* ſhould by any Caſualty of War give a blow to the Duke *de Vendoſm*, and thereby become Maſter of the Field; there is not a Town on the Frontiers of *France* from *Grenoble* to the Sea ſide, that is of any tolerable Strength, either to make a Retreat for any occaſion of an Army, or to check the Progeſs of a Fortunate Enemy.

The Sence of this made Cardinal *Richlieu* Reſolve, after he had got the Caſtle of *Pignerol*, from the Duke of *Savoy*, never

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to part with it again, upon any Pretence whatever, and as he got it beyond Expectation, the Governour being fitter to ſay his Prayers, than Defend a ſtrong Town; ſo he uſed to ſay frequently, *he wou'd never ſay his Prayers after the reſtoring of* Pignorol, alluding to the Governour who Capitulated to ſurrender the Garriſon to the *French*, but would at laſt have broke off the Treaty, unleſs they would add one Night to the Time of Surrendring, as time for him and the Garriſon to ſay their Prayers and receive the Communion.

I Querie whether it had not been more his Duty to Fight than Pray at that time, ſince the *French* had never taken the Caſtle if the Governour had thought fit to have Defended it like a Man of Honour.

The inacceſſibleneſs of its Situation, the Prodigious hardneſs of the Rock on which it ſtood, to which a Miner being ſet, in three days time could not make a hole big enough to cover half a Man, and the Approach of the Duke of *Savoy* to its Relief, were ſuch Conſiderations as made the Cardinal very uneaſy till he got the Caſtle, and indeed the Governour, who was fitter for a Prieſt than a Soldier, was wheedled into the Surrender; for as he had reſolv'd not to March out till ſuch an Hour in the Morning, the Cardinal caus'd the Clocks in the Town to be ſet forward two Hours in the Night, to make the Governour believe 'twas later than Ordinary, and ſo got him out of the Town, when the Van of the Duke of *Savoy's* Army was within two Leagues of the Place.

The Duke of *Savoy* was ſo Enrag'd at the Garriſon, that he Ordered his Cavalry to fall on them, and had cut them to pieces upon the ſpot, but for the Interceſſion of ſome of his Generals; tho' he liv'd not long after it, and moſt People thought the loſs of this Place broke his Heart.

Some indeed ſay that the Duke of *Savoy* was Agitated between two violent Extreams, and Expired in the Operations of violent Joy and Extraordinary Grief, the firſt for the taking of *Mantua*, the laſt for the loſs of *Pignerol*.

The Printer begs the Reader's Pardon for the following Errors in our laſt, the Author not being in Town to Reviſe the Paper.

Pag. 113. Col. 1. Lin. 14. *for* that have, *read* the. Ib. l. 16. *for* Vaubon's, *read* Vauban's. Ib. c. 2. l. 9. *for* the indeed, *read* indeed the. Pag. 114. c. 2. l. 15. *for* as, *read* at. Pag. 115. c. 1. l. *read* in the Attacks. Ib. l. 23. *read* of the Incorrigible. Ib. l. 47. *for* bears, *read* bear.

ADVICE from the Scandalous CLUB.

IN our laſt the Society referr'd the World to the Objections of an unknown Gentleman, on ſome of our News Letters, we are now oblig'd to give the World the trouble of another Letter, on the ſame Head, the Original whereof is left at the Printers, for the Satisfaction of the Curious.

'Tis Confeſs'd the Society had Regiſter'd the Perſon among the Incorrigibles, and given him over to his own continued Errors; but as Juſtice is required by other People, they think themſelves bound to give them the Satisfaction of it, and let them ſtand the ſhock of him that Cenſures Truth without Honeſty.

Gentlemen,

SINCE you have undertaken ſo difficult a Deſign to correct thoſe numerous Errors and Blunders, which daily occur in every News-paper; be pleas'd a little to obſerve that eternal Bull-maker, the Author of the London-Poſt. *In his Account of* Friday *laſt he tells us from* Hamburgh, *That the* Daniſh, '*Forces in the Service of the* States, *were aſ-* '*ſembled on the* Elbe not expecting *a favou-* '*rable Wind to embark for* Holland. *In the home News he ſays,* '*That the Earl of* Win-'cheſter *is made* Cuſtos Rotulorum, *and* '*Lieutenant for the County of* Kent. *I would fain know what Nobleman he calls by that Title. In his Accounts of this Day, he tells*

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us from Warsaw, 'That the King of Poland 'has sent Letters to the Companies of the 'Crown Army, who have not as yet declared 'for the Royal Confederacy, to invite 'em 'to come to the General Rendezvous. He tells 'us again from the said Place, That if the 'City of Dantzick will comply with the King 'of Sweden's three Demands, he will perfist 'from this other Demand relating to an old Debt. And from the Hague, he says, 'That several Men of War, were order'd to 'reinforce those already cruizing about the 'Maese, in Order to chase the French Priva-'teers who infect very much the North Sea: I would know again, what infectious Distemper he has an Account of, that the French have on Board. These Blunders are too great to be pass'd over without Observation.

Your humble Servant,

From *Jacob*'s Coffee House Z. X.

Monday 10 of the Clock.

May 22. 1704.

The Author of this thinks himself oblig'd to appeal to the Club, against a very Scandalous Letter sent them, charging a certain Person with saying he would inform against the Author of the Review, as the Author of *Legions Address to the Lords*.

The Society *resolv'd*, that if the Gentleman did not say so, he ought to have Reparation for the Scandal of an Informer; but the Author of the Letter offering to prove he did say so, it was resolv'd in the Name of the Writer of this Paper,

That he challenges him and all the World to make it out; and tho' he thinks it a Misfortune to be suspected, yet as he had rather 40 People should suspect it, than one could prove it, he thinks himself very ill treated to be talk'd into Trouble upon Common Suspicion.

He therefore gives the World this gentle Notice, if any Man, Friend, or Enemy, will come in and fairly prove it, he freely consents he should do it; if any will falsly attempt it *Vare Ediv.*

To some that have been so unkind to report he was tied for it, he takes the Freedom to say, he has some Thoughts of exposing himself to their View, and for Two Pence a time, *the Price of seeing a Monkey*, they shall have the Satisfaction of seeing him like a Quack Doctor, from 8 in the Morning to 12; and from 2 till 9 at Night.

ADvertisements are taken in by *J. Matthews* in *Bilkington-Court* in *Little Britain*.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Next Term will be publish'd,

THE Famous Dispensary Poem, continued to this Time; with a large Commentary, fully Explaining the Characters of little *Mirmil*, *Sowre Querpo*, and all the other Physicians Graduate and not Graduate, who betray the Patients and their Profession to the Empiricks.

LOST or Mislaid, a Bank-Note for 371 *l.* and 1 *d.* dated in *September* last; payable to *John Brand* or Bearer; if it be offered in Payment, you are desired to stop it and give Notice to Mr. *Thomas Madockes* at the Bank, and you shall receive Five Founds Reward.

THE Comical History of the Life and Death of *Mumpsy*, Generalissimo of King *Charles* IId's Dogs. Written by *Heliotropolis*, Secretary to the Emperor of the Moon. *London*, Printed in the Year 1704.

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Just publish'd,

AN Argument of a Learned Judge in the Exchequer Chamber, upon a Writ of Error out of the *King's Bench*; in a Case wherein Sir *Samuel Barnardiston* was Plaintiff against Sir *William Soame*, Sheriff of the County of *Suffolk*, Defendant: Wherein the Privilege of the House of Commons, in determining Matters relating to the Right of Elections of their own Members, is Justified; necessary for all Persons that have anything to do with Elections. From the Original M. S. Printed for *George Sawbridge*, and sold by *John Nutt*. price 6 *d*.

††† A Doctor in Physick Cures all the Degrees and Indispositions in Venereal Persons, by a most easie, safe, and expeditious Method; and of whom any Person may have Advice, and a perfect Cure, let his or her Disease be of the longest Date. He likewise gives his Advice in all Diseases, and prescribes a Cure. Dr. HARBOROUGH, (a Graduate Physician) in Great *Knight-Riders-street*, near *Doctors Commons*.